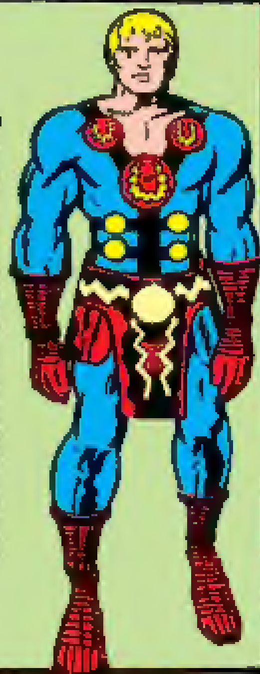
THE ETERNALS

MARVEL® COMICS GROUP



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WHEN GODS WALK THE EARTH!

THE ETERNALS™

SPECIAL! SEE THE INCREDIBLE WRATH OF IKARIS the ETERNAL!

THEIR ATTACK ON THE SPACE GOD WAS NATURAL! THE RESULT WAS HORRIBLY UNNATURAL!
-READ-
"THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING!!"

Strange events have exposed a startling fact, kept alive through the centuries only by myth and superstition—man is not alone on the evolutionary chain!! He has shared the planet with two species unknown to him! Now, in a sudden burst of violence, the Deviants have risen from their domain beneath the sea to challenge all humanity!! But mankind has unexpected allies—

Stan Lee Presents: THE ETERNALS!™

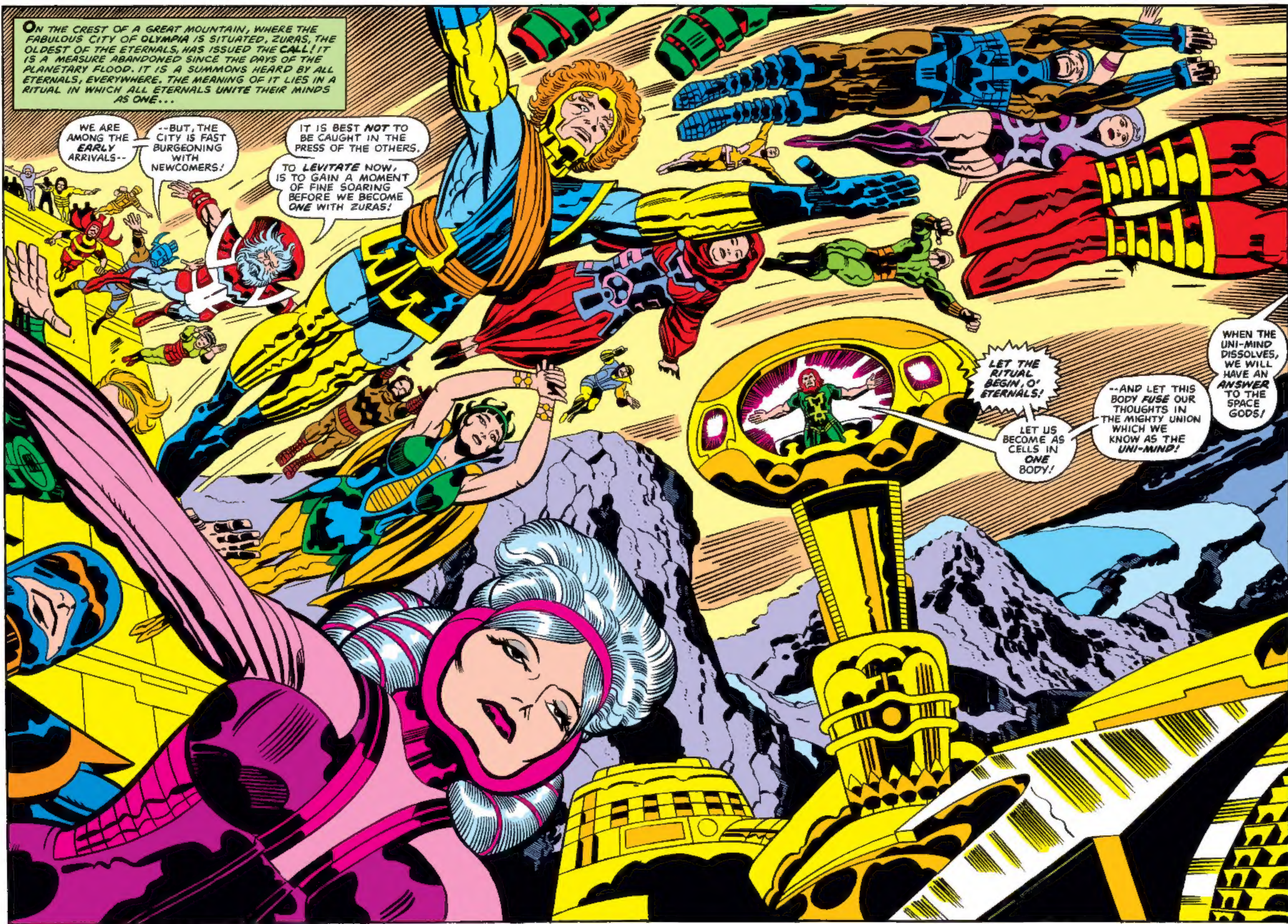
EDITED, WRITTEN, AND DRAWN BY JACK KIRBY INKED AND LETTERED BY MIKE ROYER

THIS IS WHAT HAS HAPPENED: GIANTS HAVE COME FROM SPACE TO BEGIN A FIFTY YEAR JUDGEMENT OF ALL THAT LIVES ON EARTH! THEY PROWL THE PLANET... THEY PROBE THE OCEANS... THEIR AWESOME VESSEL ORBITS **ABOVE US** LIKE A COSMIC SENTRY...

THIS IS WHAT IS HAPPENING: HUMANS EVERYWHERE ARE REACTING TO THIS--AND MORE!! WE SHARE OUR PLANET WITH TWO **FANTASTIC** SPECIES--THE IMMORTAL **ETERNALS** AND THE SCHEMING **DEVIANTS** WHO MUST FACE THIS **WITH US!**

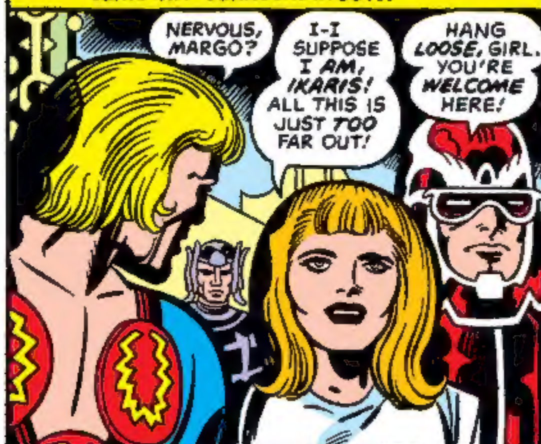
THIS IS WHAT IS GOING TO HAPPEN: HUMANS WILL STRIKE FIRST!!

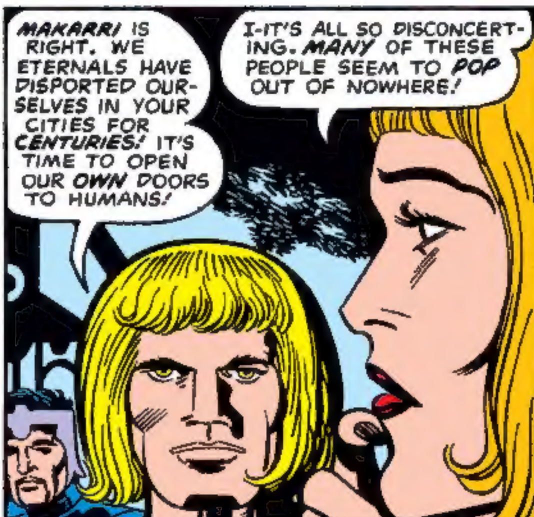




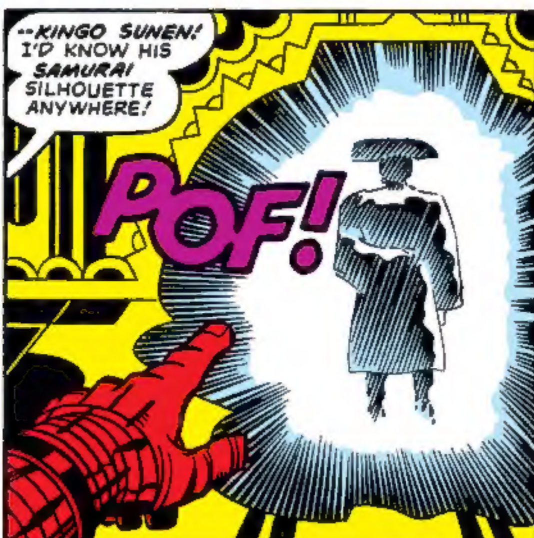
ON THE CREST OF A GREAT MOUNTAIN, WHERE THE FABULOUS CITY OF OLYMPIA IS SITUATED, ZURAS, THE OLDEST OF THE ETERNALS, HAS ISSUED THE CALL! IT IS A MEASURE ABANDONED SINCE THE DAYS OF THE PLANETARY FLOOD. IT IS A SUMMONS HEARD BY ALL ETERNALS, EVERYWHERE. THE MEANING OF IT LIES IN A RITUAL IN WHICH ALL ETERNALS UNITE THEIR MINDS AS ONE...
WE ARE AMONG THE EARLY ARRIVALS--
--BUT, THE CITY IS FAST BURGEONING WITH NEWCOMERS!
IT IS BEST NOT TO BE CAUGHT IN THE PRESS OF THE OTHERS.
TO LEVITATE NOW, IS TO GAIN A MOMENT OF FINE SOARING BEFORE WE BECOME ONE WITH ZURAS!
LET THE RITUAL BEGIN, O' ETERNALS!
LET US BECOME AS CELLS IN ONE BODY!
--AND LET THIS BODY FUSE OUR THOUGHTS IN THE MIGHTY UNION WHICH WE KNOW AS THE UNI-MIND!
WHEN THE UNI-MIND DISSOLVES, WE WILL HAVE AN ANSWER TO THE SPACE GODS!


MEANWHILE, OLYMPIA BEGINS TO SWARM WITH ETERNALS WHO HAVE LAID ASIDE THEIR INDIVIDUAL PURSUITS ALL ACROSS THE GLOBE...
THE SUN SHINES IN UNTROUBLED SKIES! YET, ZURAS ENTERTAINS DARK VISIONS! CAN AGE BE STIMULATING HIS FEARS?
DISASTERS HAPPEN AT THE MOST INOPPORTUNE TIMES!
AGREED, LADY. I WAS AT A PARTY IN LONDON.
I'D RATHER MEDITATE -- THAN MINGLE WITH SILLY HUMANS!

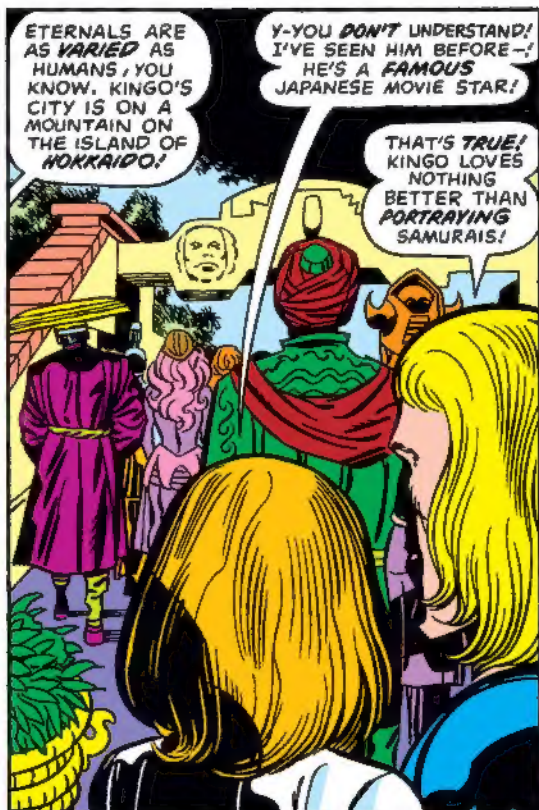

BUT A HUMAN IS PRESENT IN THE GATHERING CROWD. MARGO DAMIAN FEELS AWED BY THESE OLYMPIAN SURROUNDINGS...
NERVOUS, MARGO?
I-I SUPPOSE I AM, IKARIS! ALL THIS IS JUST TOO FAR OUT!
HANG LOOSE, GIRL. YOU'RE WELCOME HERE!


MAKARRI IS RIGHT. WE ETERNALS HAVE DISPORTED OURSELVES IN YOUR CITIES FOR CENTURIES! IT'S TIME TO OPEN OUR OWN DOORS TO HUMANS!
I-IT'S ALL SO DISCONCERTING. MANY OF THESE PEOPLE SEEM TO POP OUT OF NOWHERE!


WHAT THEY'RE ACTUALLY DOING IS "POPPING IN" FROM SOMEWHERE! IT'S A FACULTY WE'VE DEVELOPED -- LIKE LEVITATION.
THERE! SEE THE LIGHT FORMING? SOMEONE'S ARRIVING NOW!
SAY! THAT MUST BE--

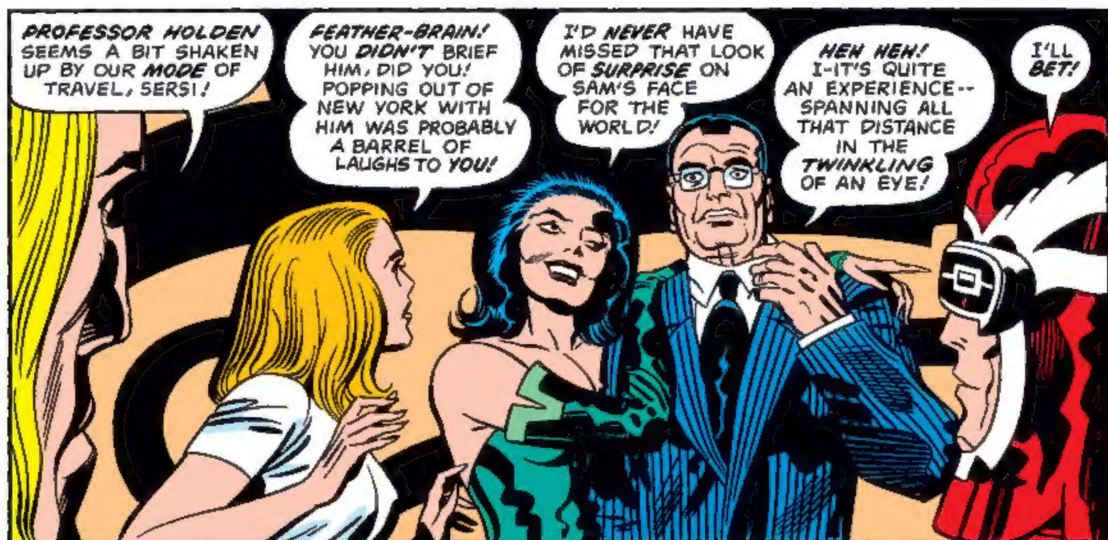

--KINGO SUNEN! I'D KNOW HIS SAMURAI SILHOUETTE ANYWHERE!
POF!


HAIL, IKARIS! I SEE THAT YOU AND MAKARRI HAVE NOT YET NEGLECTED BEAUTY IN THIS GRAVE HOUR!
NOR HAVE YOU THE SWORD, KINGO!
BE AS ONE WITH GREAT ZURAS!
WHAT'S WRONG, MARGO? YOU LOOK PUZZLED!

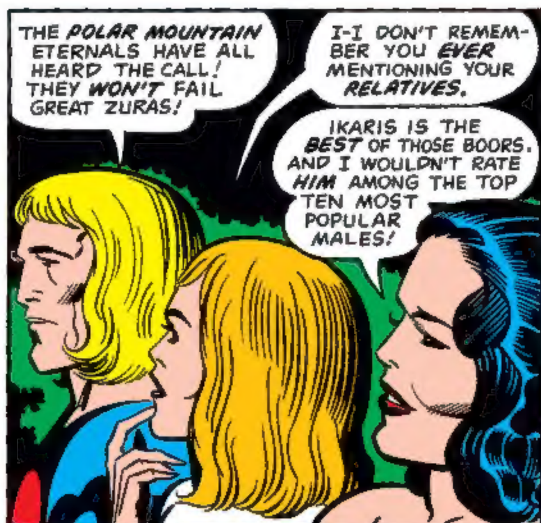

ETERNALS ARE AS VARIED AS HUMANS, YOU KNOW. KINGO'S CITY IS ON A MOUNTAIN ON THE ISLAND OF HOKKAIDO!
Y-YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND! I'VE SEEN HIM BEFORE--! HE'S A FAMOUS JAPANESE MOVIE STAR!
THAT'S TRUE! KINGO LOVES NOTHING BETTER THAN PORTRAYING SAMURAIS!


--AND WHO CAN DO IT MORE ACCURATELY, I ASK YOU ?!
HE WAS A WITNESS TO THE REAL THING IN SIXTEENTH-CENTURY JAPAN!
IKARIS! MARGO! MAKARRI--! WAIT FOR US, YOU THREE MUSKETEERS!
WELL, LOOK WHO JUST POPPED IN FROM THE BIG APPLE!

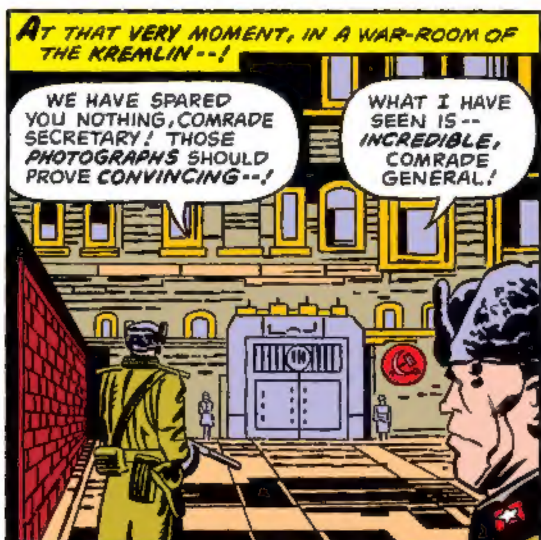

HER VOICE IS MUSICAL. THE JOY OF LIVING IS EVER-PRESENT IN HER LAUGHTER. SERSI, THE ETERNAL, APPEARS WITH A HESITANT GUEST IN TOW...
I'VE BROUGHT ANOTHER TOURIST TO OLYMPIA !!
THE UNI-MIND RITUAL SHOULD BE AN EYE-OPENER FOR A PROFESSOR OF ANTHROPOL-OGY!
I-I DO SUPPOSE SO...! HELLO, EVERYBODY.

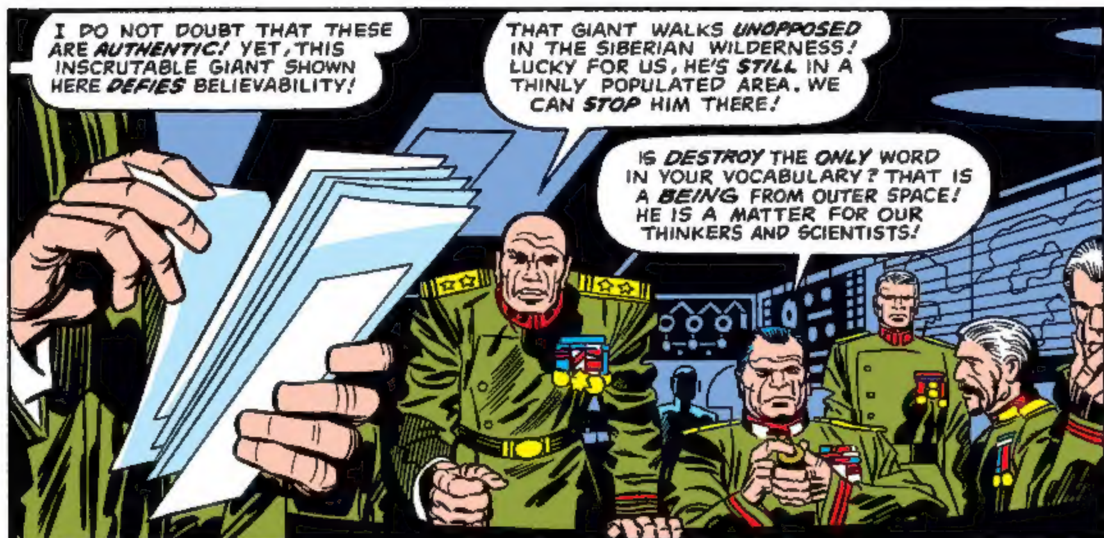

PROFESSOR HOLDEN SEEMS A BIT SHAKEN UP BY OUR MODE OF TRAVEL, SERSI!
FEATHER-BRAIN! YOU DIDN'T BRIEF HIM, DID YOU! POPPING OUT OF NEW YORK WITH HIM WAS PROBABLY A BARREL OF LAUGHS TO YOU!
I'D NEVER HAVE MISSED THAT LOOK OF SURPRISE ON SAM'S FACE FOR THE WORLD!
HEH HEH! I-IT'S QUITE AN EXPERIENCE-- SPANNING ALL THAT DISTANCE IN THE TWINKLING OF AN EYE!
I'LL BET!


THE TIME IS AT HAND FOR HUMANS TO FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH OUR WAYS. COME! ZURAS AND THE UNI-MIND AWAIT US!
YOU SHOW MUCH MORE CONCERN THAN YOUR ICE-BOUND FAMILY, IKARIS. I SEE NONE OF THEM HERE!
FORGET THEM!

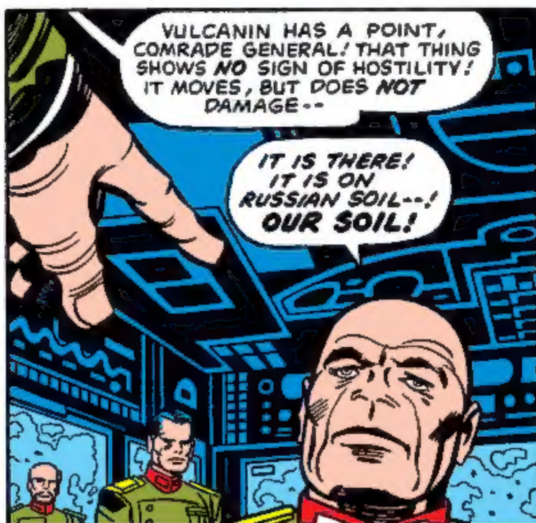

THE POLAR MOUNTAIN ETERNALS HAVE ALL HEARD THE CALL! THEY WON'T FAIL GREAT ZURAS!
I-I DON'T REMEMBER YOU EVER MENTIONING YOUR RELATIVES.
IKARIS IS THE BEST OF THOSE BOORS. AND I WOULDN'T RATE HIM AMONG THE TOP TEN MOST POPULAR MALES!


ALAS, THE BLEAK NORTH DOES NOT BREED GENTLE HEARTS. THE POLAR ETERNALS ARE WHERE THUNDER ROLLS AND LIGHTNING RIDES THE SKY--!
YES! MARGO WOULD GET QUITE A JOLT IF SHE KNEW WHERE YOUR BULLY-BOYS ARE!!


AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN A WAR-ROOM OF THE KREMLIN--!
WE HAVE SPARED YOU NOTHING, COMRADE SECRETARY! THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS SHOULD PROVE CONVINCING--!
WHAT I HAVE SEEN IS-- INCREDIBLE, COMRADE GENERAL!

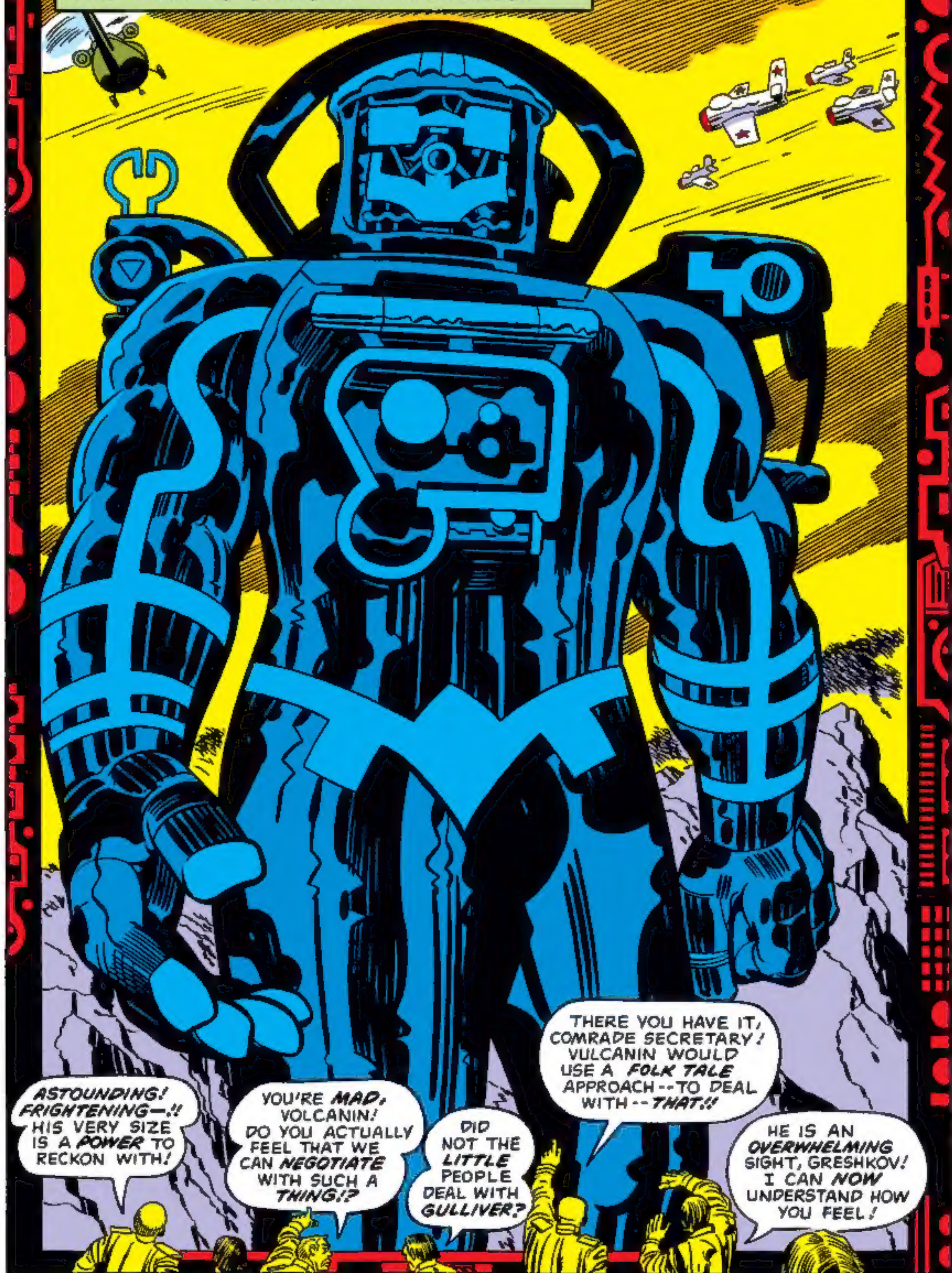

I DO NOT DOUBT THAT THESE ARE AUTHENTIC! YET, THIS INSCRUTABLE GIANT SHOWN HERE DEFIES BELIEVABILITY!
THAT GIANT WALKS UNOPPOSED IN THE SIBERIAN WILDERNESS! LUCKY FOR US, HE'S STILL IN A THINLY POPULATED AREA. WE CAN STOP HIM THERE!
IS DESTROY THE ONLY WORD IN YOUR VOCABULARY? THAT IS A BEING FROM OUTER SPACE! HE IS A MATTER FOR OUR THINKERS AND SCIENTISTS!

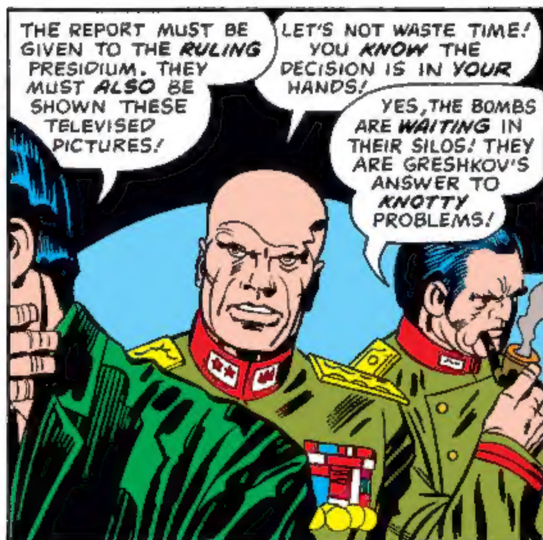

ALWAYS THE VOICE OF MODERATION, EH, VULCANIN? I OFTEN WONDER HOW YOU ROSE IN RANK!
AS A VOICE OF MODERATION, GRESHKOV!! I DO AS WELL AS ANY HOTHEAD!


VULCANIN HAS A POINT, COMRADE GENERAL! THAT THING SHOWS NO SIGN OF HOSTILITY! IT MOVES, BUT DOES NOT DAMAGE--
IT IS THERE! IT IS ON RUSSIAN SOIL--! OUR SOIL!


WOULD YOU SEEK A PASSPORT--TO SET FOOT ON MARS? COME NOW, GRESHKOV! WE'RE DEALING WITH AN ALIEN--BUT HE IS NOT OF THIS WORLD!
ALL THE MORE REASON TO KILL HIM! WE MUST LET HIS COMPANIONS KNOW THAT WE ARE NOT FOR THE TAKING!
BUT, OF COURSE, YOU BELIEVE MY REASONING TO BE HIGHLY EMOTIONAL!!


THE AMERICANS WOULD CALL IT "SHOOTING FROM THE HIP!"
VERY WELL! WE SHALL SEE WHAT YOU CALL IT!
ACTIVATE THE LARGE SCREEN!
GRESHKOV! THIS IS NOT THE WAY!


WHAT IS PROJECTED ON THE HUGE SCREEN JARS EVERYONE PRESENT IN THE WAR-ROOM! EACH MAN KNOWS THAT THIS IS TELEVISED LIVE FROM THE FIELD! HE SEES NEZZAR OF THE FOURTH HOST AS HE TRULY STANDS!--2000 FEET OF MYSTERY!--MOUNTAIN-OUS!--MAN-LIKE!--EXPLOSIVE TO THE SENSES!!
ASTOUNDING! FRIGHTENING--!! HIS VERY SIZE IS A POWER TO RECKON WITH!
YOU'RE MAD, VOLCANIN! DO YOU ACTUALLY FEEL THAT WE CAN NEGOTIATE WITH SUCH A THING!?
DID NOT THE LITTLE PEOPLE DEAL WITH GULLIVER?
THERE YOU HAVE IT, COMRADE SECRETARY! VULCANIN WOULD USE A FOLK TALE APPROACH--TO DEAL WITH--THAT!!
HE IS AN OVERWHELMING SIGHT, GRESHKOV! I CAN NOW UNDERSTAND HOW YOU FEEL!


THE REPORT MUST BE GIVEN TO THE RULING PRESIDIUM. THEY MUST ALSO BE SHOWN THESE TELEVISED PICTURES!
LET'S NOT WASTE TIME! YOU KNOW THE DECISION IS IN YOUR HANDS!
YES, THE BOMBS ARE WAITING IN THEIR SILOS! THEY ARE GRESHKOV'S ANSWER TO KNOTTY PROBLEMS!


ENOUGH, VULCANIN! CURIOSITY KILLS! POWER TRIUMPHS! WE MUST USE POWER!
AGAINST WHAT?! HAVE YOU GIVEN A THOUGHT TO THAT?


YES, I'VE THOUGHT ABOUT IT! THIS KIND OF PROVOCATION CANNOT BE TOLERATED!! WE MUST ACT AS A NATION OF POWER!
IT'S FINE TO BE PROUD -- BUT IT'S ALSO DANGEROUS! I ASK YOU TO RECONSIDER -- TO TRY COMMUNICATION!!


THAT MAY PROVE IMPOSSIBLE! AS FIRST SECRETARY OF THE PRESIDIUM, I PLACE FULL AUTHORITY FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION IN THE HANDS OF GENERAL GRESHKOV!
THEN, THE DECISION IS MADE! ACTION IS WHAT YOU SHALL GET!
I AM NO LONGER NEEDED HERE. THERE IS A PRESSING APPOINTMENT...


GENERAL VULCANIN LEAVES THE HIGH-LEVEL CONFERENCE SOON AFTER...
YOUR AIDES ARE WAITING IN THE NEXT ROOM, GENERAL.
CALL MY PILOT! TELL HIM TO STAND-BY FOR TAKE-OFF!


TWO OFFICERS JOIN THE DEPARTURE AS VULCANIN STRIDES TRUCULENTLY FROM THE BUILDING...
YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE LOST ONE OF YOUR MEDALS, GENERAL!
WHAT WAS LOST IN IN THERE WAS OF GREATER CONSEQUENCE!
THAT'S TOO BAD!

MOMENTS LATER, THE HELICOPTER CARRYING THE GENERAL AND HIS AIDES LIFTS OFF AND VANISHES TOWARD THE DISTANT HORIZON...

HUMAN FOOLS! THEY CAN ONLY SEE A PROBLEM IN HUMAN TERMS!

FASTER! WE'RE NEEDED ELSEWHERE!

WE SHALL NOT ESCAPE THIS PROBLEM! I BELIEVE IT AWAITS US IN OLYMPIA AS WELL!

TRUE! LET'S PUT AN END TO THIS RIDICULOUS ILLUSION AND BECOME AS WE REALLY ARE!

TO OBEY THE ALL-FATHER IS TO FOLLOW WISDOM!

THEN, I FIND IT WISER TO LEVITATE THIS TINKER TOY THAN PLAY WITH ITS MECHANICAL RESPONSES!

--AND BETTER TO BE VALKIN, OF THE POLAR MOUNTAINS, THAN HOLD HIGH RANK IN A HUMAN MILITARY MACHINE!

I DON'T SUPPOSE THAT YOU AGREE, DRUIG!

TO BE A SON OF VALKIN IS HONOR, INDEED...

HOWEVER, I AM NOT DISPLEASED WITH MY LOT AS A MAJOR IN THE KGB...

SLY TORTURER! YOU LOVE THE FOUL WORK! YOU REVEL IN THE SHAPING OF PLOTS AND THE TRAINING OF ASSASSINS!

THIS IS A WASTE OF WORDS, AGINAR! WE SERVE AS RUSSIANS TO DISCOURAGE THE FOLLY OF ATOMIC CONFRONTATIONS!

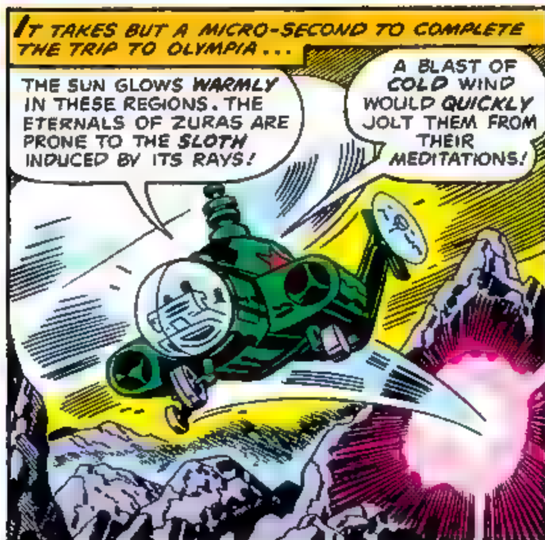
THOUGH... I CANNOT BOAST OF MY SKILLS THIS DAY!

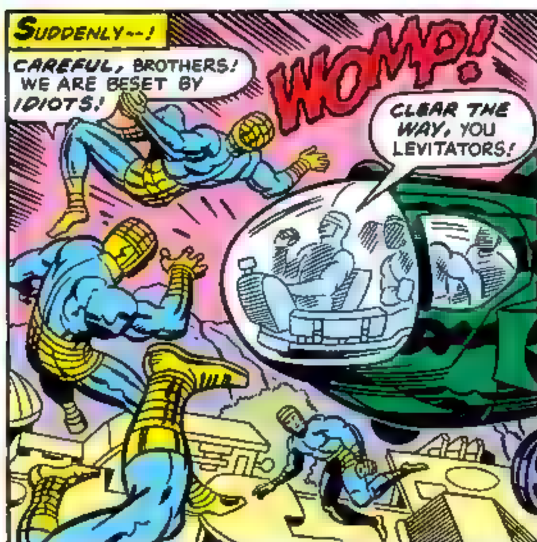
THEY SHALL STILL BE OF HELP IN OLYMPIA, SIRE!

TRANSPORT THIS CRAFT, ZARIN! WE JOIN THE UNI-MIND!

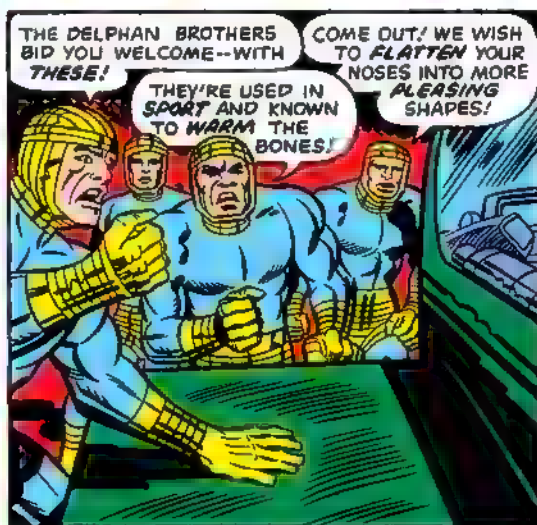
DONE, SIRE!

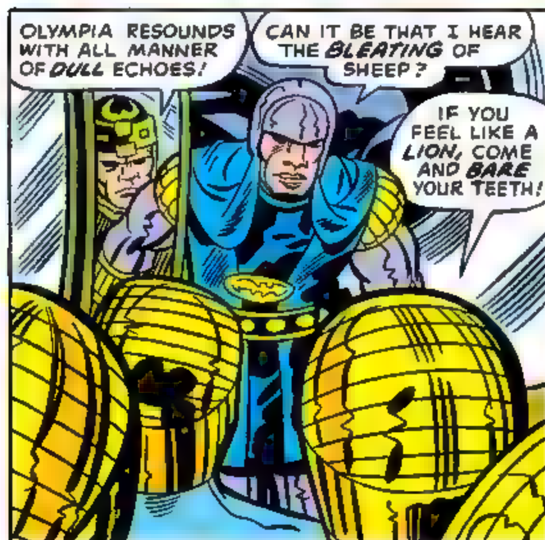
FWOF!

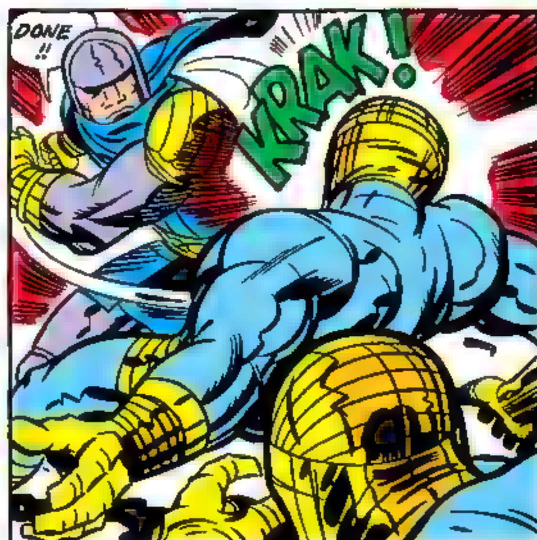

IT TAKES BUT A MICRO-SECOND TO COMPLETE THE TRIP TO OLYMPIA...
THE SUN GLOWS WARMLY IN THESE REGIONS. THE ETERNALS OF ZURAS ARE PRONE TO THE SLOTH INDUCED BY ITS RAYS!
A BLAST OF COLD WIND WOULD QUICKLY JOLT THEM FROM THEIR MEDITATIONS!

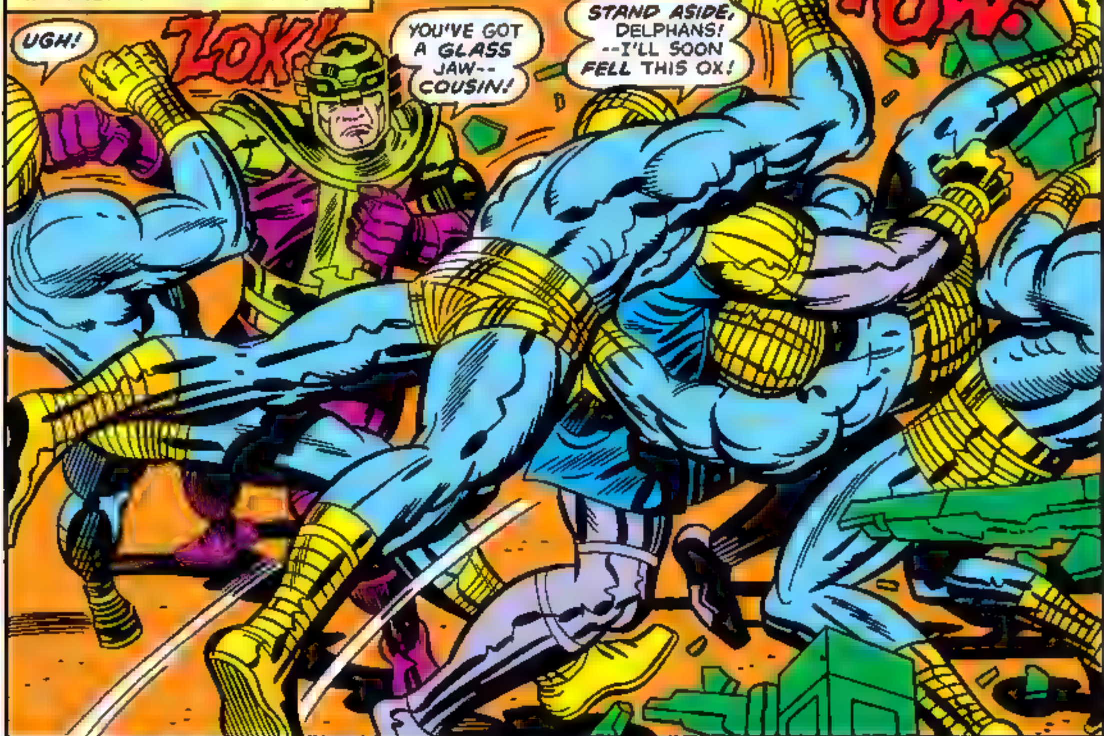

SUDDENLY--!
CAREFUL, BROTHERS! WE ARE BESET BY IDIOTS!
WOMP!
CLEAR THE WAY, YOU LEVITATORS!

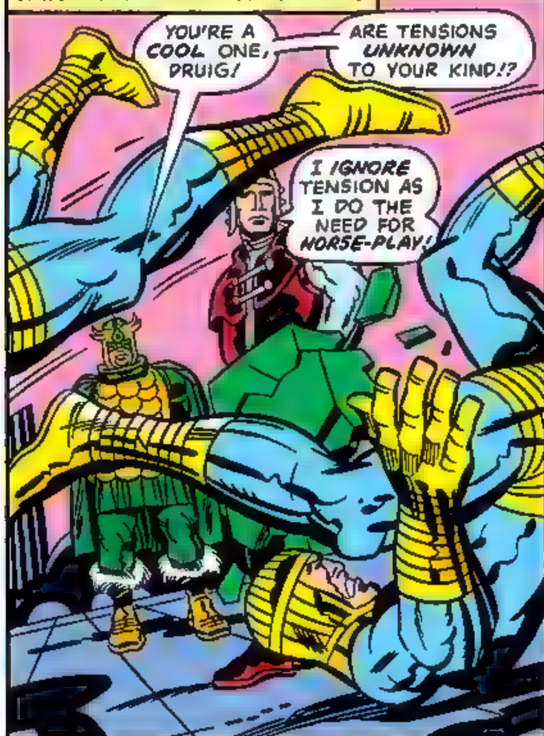

THE ARROGANCE IS FAMILIAR-- BUT THE FACES ARE IN DEEP FREEZE!
THEY CAN ONLY BE OUR POLAR COUSINS! IT IS SAID THAT THEY RUN WITH THE STORM AND PLAY WITH RUSSIAN JUNK!
THEY'RE LANDING, BROTHERS. PERHAPS THEY'LL PLAY WITH US!

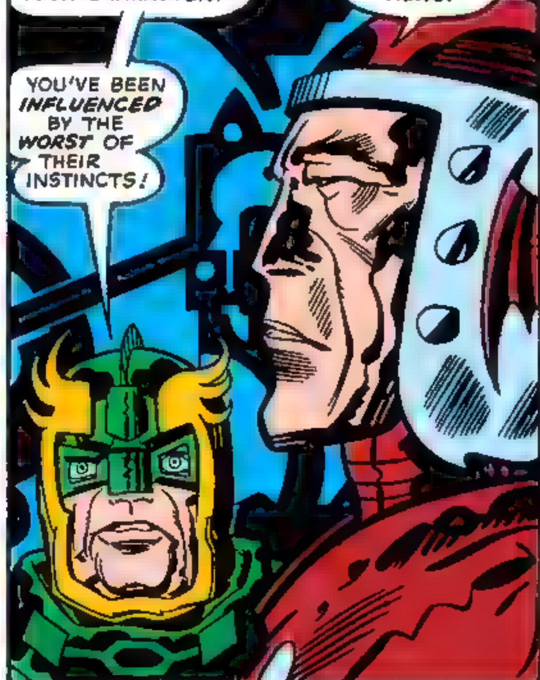

THE DELPHAN BROTHERS BID YOU WELCOME--WITH THESE!
THEY'RE USED IN SPORT AND KNOWN TO WARM THE BONES!
COME OUT! WE WISH TO FLATTEN YOUR NOSES INTO MORE PLEASING SHAPES!

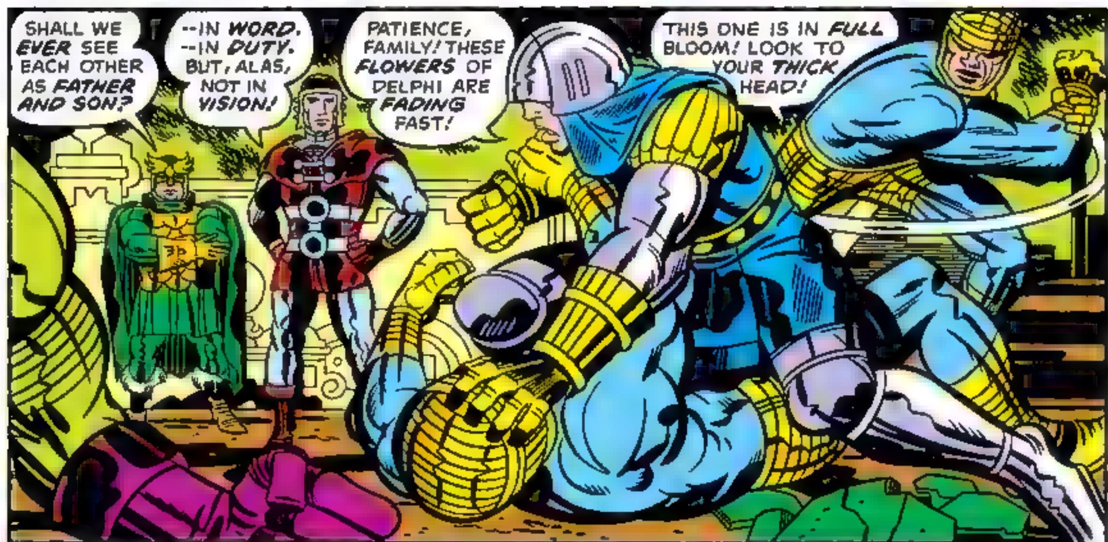

OLYMPIA RESOUNDS WITH ALL MANNER OF DULL ECHOES!
CAN IT BE THAT I HEAR THE BLEATING OF SHEEP?
IF YOU FEEL LIKE A LION, COME AND BARE YOUR TEETH!

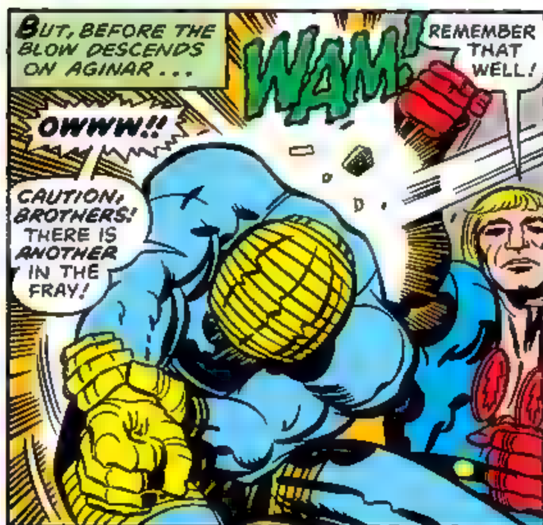

DONE!!
KRAK!

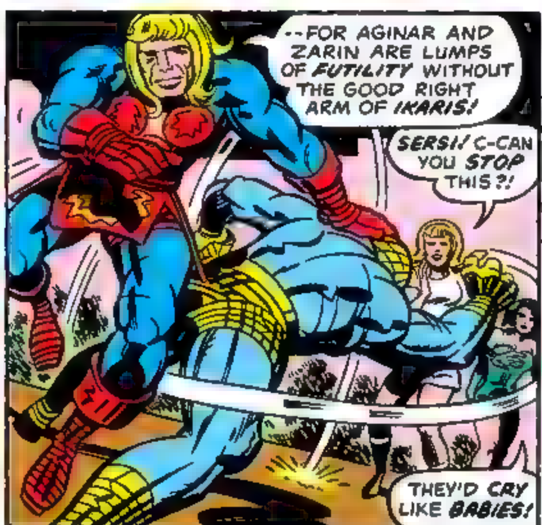

IT IS A BRISK MOMENT FOR FISTIC-FANATICS AND STORMY PETRELS ... ETERNALS, PROVING THAT THEY ARE BUT ANOTHER SPECIES OF MAN...
UGH!
ZOK!
YOU'VE GOT A GLASS JAW-- COUSIN!
STAND ASIDE, DELPHANS! --I'LL SOON FELL THIS OX!
POW!

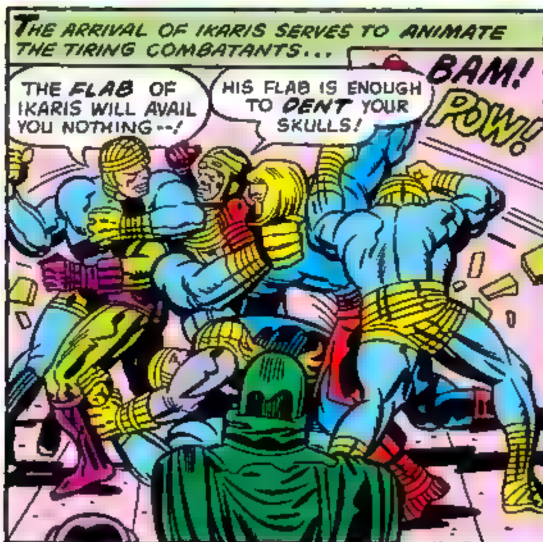

WATCHING PATIENTLY, WITH CONFIDENCE IN THE MIGHT OF HIS BROOD, VALKIN WAITS FOR THE SKIRMISH TO SPEND ITS FURY...
YOU'RE A COOL ONE, DRUIG!
ARE TENSIONS UNKNOWN TO YOUR KIND!?
I IGNORE TENSION AS I DO THE NEED FOR HORSE-PLAY!


AND, I'VE NEGLECTED YOU, DRUIG! I HAVE ALLOWED OUR INVOLVEMENT WITH HUMANS TO MOLD YOUR CHARACTER!
YOU'VE BEEN INFLUENCED BY THE WORST OF THEIR INSTINCTS!
IF YOU SEEK THE HERO IN ME, ALL-FATHER, LOOK THEN-- FROM OTHER VIEWS!


SHALL WE EVER SEE EACH OTHER AS FATHER AND SON?
--IN WORD. --IN DUTY. BUT, ALAS, NOT IN VISION!
PATIENCE, FAMILY! THESE FLOWERS OF DELPHI ARE FADING FAST!
THIS ONE IS IN FULL BLOOM! LOOK TO YOUR THICK HEAD!


BUT, BEFORE THE BLOW DESCENDS ON AGINAR...
WAM!
REMEMBER THAT WELL!
OWWW!!
CAUTION, BROTHERS! THERE IS ANOTHER IN THE FRAY!


--FOR AGINAR AND ZARIN ARE LUMPS OF FUTILITY WITHOUT THE GOOD RIGHT ARM OF IKARIS!
SERSI! C-CAN YOU STOP THIS?!
THEY'D CRY LIKE BABIES!

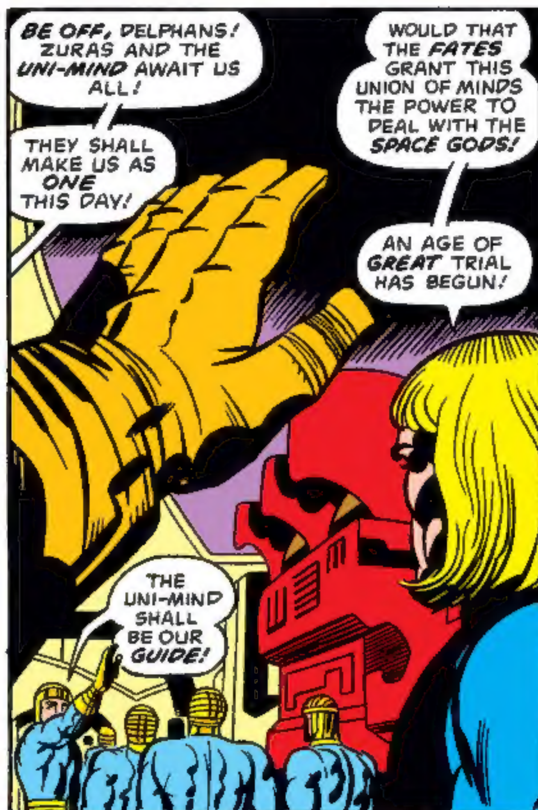

THE ARRIVAL OF IKARIS SERVES TO ANIMATE THE TIRING COMBATANTS...
THE FLAB OF IKARIS WILL AVAIL YOU NOTHING--!
HIS FLAB IS ENOUGH TO DENT YOUR SKULLS!
BAM!
POW!


SUDDENLY--!
TWOFF!


IT IS VALKIN, RULER OF THE POLAR ETERNALS, WHOSE POWER DECIDES ALL SUCH CONTESTS...
LET THE LIGHTNING UNLEASHED BY VALKIN'S HAND BE THE FINAL WORD HERE!
VALKIN'S WORD IS POWERFUL INDEED!
IT HAS MADE AN ECHO CHAMBER OF MY HEAD!
PEACE, GREAT VALKIN! WE BOW TO YOUR WILL!
WE DELPHANS JOIN IKARIS IN THIS PLEA!


THAT IS A WISE CHOICE! IT APPEARS THAT MY FATHER HAS LOST HIS BENT FOR MODERATION!
IT'S A BAD DAY FOR MODERATION! THE TIME FOR HARSH DECISIONS HAS COME!
UP, IKARIS! YOUR TRAVELS HAVE DONE LITTLE TO IMPROVE YOUR MIND!
YOU SEE ME AS I'VE ALWAYS BEEN, UNCLE!

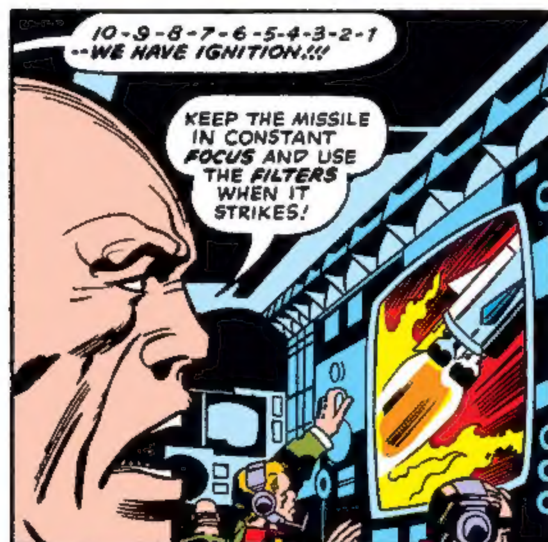

REBUKE HIM NOT, SIRE! HE IS A LION WHOSE TAIL IS NOT EASILY TWISTED! IKARIS DOES HONOR TO HIS BROTHERS!
WE'D RATHER FIGHT IKARIS THAN CANNY DRUIG!
TRUE! HIS KIND OF SPORT IS TOO GRIM FOR OUR LIKING!
ENOUGH! WE END THIS AT VALKIN'S WORD!


BE OFF, DELPHANS! ZURAS AND THE UNI-MIND AWAIT US ALL!
THEY SHALL MAKE US AS ONE THIS DAY!
WOULD THAT THE FATES GRANT THIS UNION OF MINDS THE POWER TO DEAL WITH THE SPACE GODS!
AN AGE OF GREAT TRIAL HAS BEGUN!
THE UNI-MIND SHALL BE OUR GUIDE!

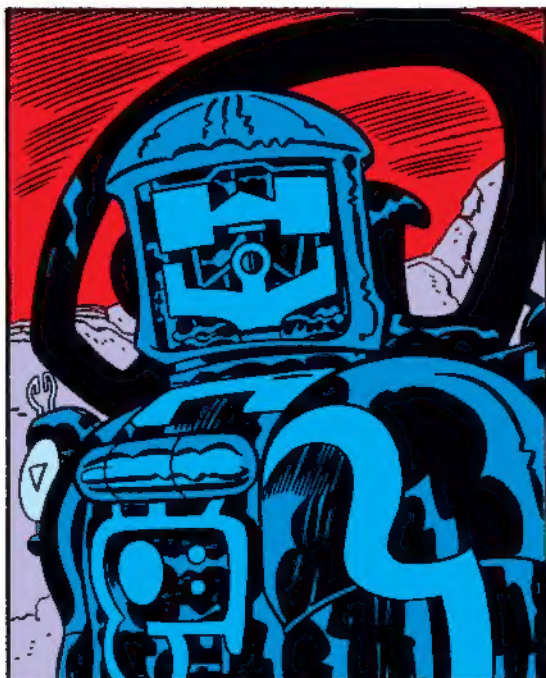

YES, WE ETERNALS ARE EQUIPPED TO SEE THIS THROUGH! BUT, THIS PLANET IS NOT OURS ALONE!
THE HUMANS MUST MEET THE CHALLENGE OF THE CELESTIALS, AS WELL--AND THEY WILL DO IT--WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING!


MEANWHILE, IN RUSSIA, A LARGE MISSILE RISES FROM ITS SILO!
TAKE COVER! TAKE COVER!
THEY'RE ABOUT TO BEGIN THE COUNT-DOWN!


GENERAL GRESHKOV IS ABOUT TO APPLY HIS PHILOSOPHY TO THE INTRUSION OF THE UNKNOWN...
WE ARE ON TARGET!
IMPACT SHOULD BE MADE IN FIVE MINUTES.
A FAST ANSWER TO AN URGENT PROBLEM!
START COUNT-DOWN!


10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 --WE HAVE IGNITION!!!
KEEP THE MISSILE IN CONSTANT FOCUS AND USE THE FILTERS WHEN IT STRIKES!

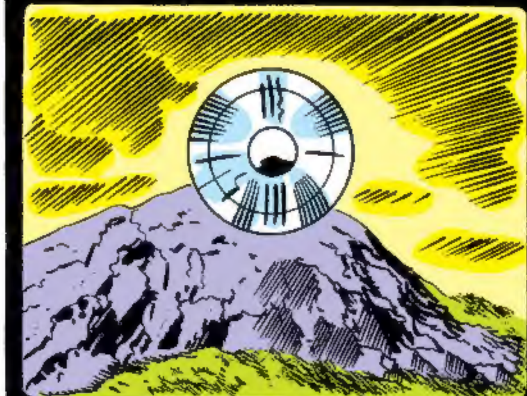

THE EYES OF GRESHKOV ARE GLUED TO THE T.V. SCREEN. THEY HAVE WATCHED THE ENEMY CRUMBLE BEFORE, BUT THIS TIME, HE SHALL VANISH IN MAN'S OWN COSMIC FIRE!!

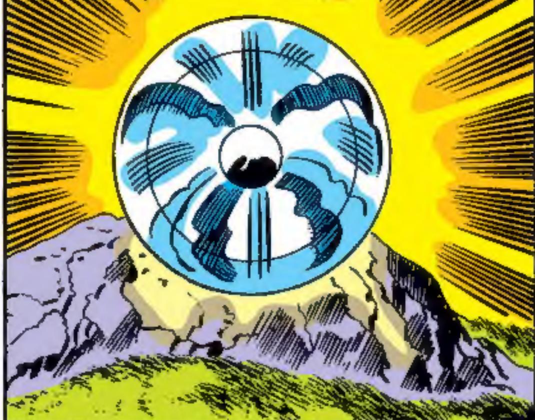

IMPACT IS ALMOST AT HAND! AT GROUND ZERO, NEZZAR OF THE FORTH HOST WILL MOMENTARILY BE AT THE CENTER OF A HOLOCAUST FIFTY MILES WIDE!! YET, HE STARES UNDISTURBED, AND IS CALM IN HIS THOUGHTS...

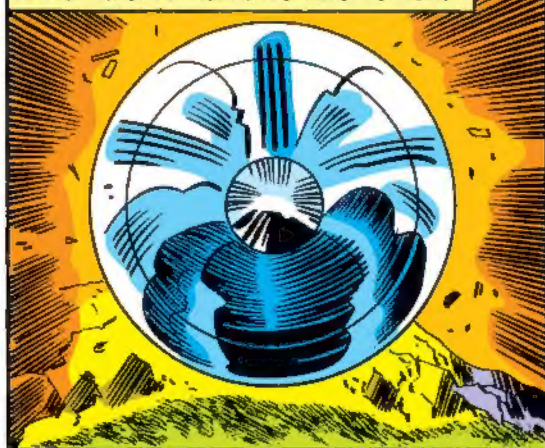

HIS THOUGHTS ARE ALL-ENCOMPASSING, ALL-SATURATING --BLANKETING THE REGIONS BEFORE HIM TO MONITOR EN MASSE THE GROUP MIND OF THE HUMANS. IT IS A SORRY TASK TO BE A JUDGE OF LIFE. A WAVE OF SADNESS OVERTAKES NEZZAR--AND WASHES ACROSS HIS VISAGE IN RIPPLES OF ENERGY...

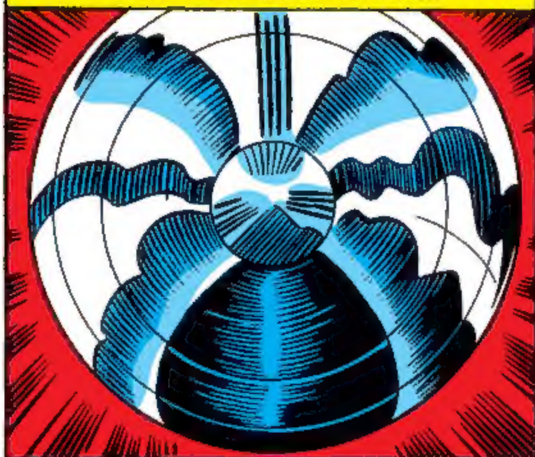

UNKNOWN TO THE WATCHERS IN THE BUNKER, THE ISSUE OF THE MISSILE HAS BEEN DECIDED LONG BEFORE THE FIRING. THEY SEE THE H-BOMB REACH THE GREAT CELESTIAL--AND SUDDENLY, INEXPLICABLY REVERSE ITS COURSE!!


THE HORROR OF WHAT HAS HAPPENED IS FIRST PRECEDED BY GASPS OF DISBELIEF. EVERY INSTRUMENT IN THE BUNKER RECORDS THE MISSILE'S ASTONISHING FLIGHT WITH UNMISTAKABLE ACCURACY. A DEATHLY SILENCE FALLS UPON THE SHELTERED COMPLEX. NO MAN IS ABLE TO SPEAK...











AS THE CELESTIALS CONTINUE ON IN THEIR MYSTERIOUS WAYS,
THE ETERNALS MEET THE CHALLENGE WITH A GREAT SPECTACULAR!!

DON'T MISS--

THE AWESOME RITUAL OF

UNI-MIND